

Friends of Beechwood Park (FoBP) (a sub-committee of Torbrex Community Council): **action report of meeting of 20th November, 2008.**

(Please note that our first meeting for 2009 will take place in Stirling High School on Tuesday 20th January. Dates and locations of other meetings for 2009 are provided at the end of this Action Report.)

Present. Murray Dickie; Brendan Docherty; Margaret Duff; Hirek Kwiatkowski (Convener); Mary Kwiatkowski; Valerie Milligan; Ian Robertson; Bill Sim; Evelyn Sim.

Apologies received. Hugh Gillies; Wilson Jamieson.

1. Report of meeting held on 21st October 2008 was accepted as an accurate record.
2. Matters arising from Report
 - a. Hirek reported that the proposed joint litter picks with Stirling High School (SHS) were well underway (weekly on Thursday mornings, first Friday of each month), with an agreed schedule. It was also agreed that a schedule for litter picks in the new year should now be prepared (including a time to do a clean-up of the cycle track); and that consideration should be given to continuing these picks over the long summer school holiday period by members of FoBP – hopefully, with more help.
ACTION. Hirek to issue a draft early 2009 litter pick schedule for confirmation ASAP; and to agenda summer picks for the May 2009 meeting.
 - b. Mary Kwiatkowski gave a report on a way forward for the Funding Group in the context of the temporary hiatus in forward planning caused by the “Masterplan” review of Park developments. Key points were :
 - communicating with Sons of the Rock group to explain delay and pending new context for funding request
 - visits by Bill Sim and Mary to other possible sources (e.g. B&Q; 3 x garden centres) to identify possible provision for SHS polytunnel and other ventures – which can link with Park development in due course.
 - co-operation with initiative already initiated by Murray Dickie to seek funding (from O2 or possible other source) to support SHS polytunnel venture
 - possibility of approaching Ogilvie (as contractors now developing “old SHS” site) for some top soil for new SHS project
 - in the longer term, considering contact with Ratho Forge in relation to a piece of appropriate public art.
ACTION. Mary to write to Sons of the Rock ASAP; and Bill and Mary to visit possible contributors/suppliers.
 - c. With regard to the damage to grass caused by a van driving across the footpath in front of Beechwood House, Hirek reported that he had identified this as belonging to Children’s Services, and had spoken with Ben McConnell (in charge of this area) who had given assurances that the matter would be dealt with. However, further damage by another unidentified vehicle had been seen very recently; and Hirek indicated he would contact Bob Connon and Les Goodfellow about the end of the footpath being blocked ASAP.
3. With regard to the Beechwood Park “Masterplan” process (first reported in Action Report of 21st October), Hirek and Murray gave a brief report of a “walk round” the Park which took place on 14th November with Bob Connon of Cnnon Associates and David Crichton of

Stirling Council – the purpose of which was principally to provide Bob Connon with an overview of the Park and other associated green spaces; and to allow him to identify some of the key issues with which he will consult further with the range of stakeholders. As a result of this, Bob Connon intends to produce an “issues” map – probably for the basis of further joint discussions.

4. In view of the fact that we were coming to the end of the first year of the existence and work of *FoBP*, Hirek tabled two brief draft documents outlining the work and recent achievements of *FoBP*'s first year. These were accepted with minor modifications; and a copy of the final confirmed version of these is being sent with this Action Report to immediate active members; with a copy of this also to be sent, as an Update on the work of *FoBP* to those who have recorded a continuing interest in the Park and the group.
A draft press release on the work of *FoBP* from Wilson Jamieson was also circulated, and again agreed with minor amendments.

*ACTION .Hugh Gillies to be asked to distribute the Update to list of wider interested members.
Wilson to provide press release to “Stirling Observer”.*

5. **Office Bearers for 2009.** As a result of discussion at and soon after the meeting, the following has been decided:
 - Hirek Kwiatkowski has agreed to continue as Convener for 2009; but has indicated that he intends to step down at the end of 2009, and believes that another Convener should take matters forward from then/
 - Brendan Docherty has agreed to continue as Vice Convener for 2009.
 - High Gillies has agreed to continue as Secretary for 2009.
6. Under AOB, attention was drawn to the “**Environmental Fair**” to be held in SHS on the evening of **23rd February**, at which the intention is for a variety of community groups involved in environmental-related projects to have the chance to meet and share information. *FoBP* to participate in this: details of involvement to be discussed at January 2009 meeting. **Please put this date in your diaries.**

Provisional agenda for meeting of 20th January 2009 :

*Litter picks : early 2009 schedule
Funding group : update
Beechwood Park “Masterplan” : update
Involvement in “Environmental Fair” on 23rd February*

Meeting dates for 2009 : a list of the confirmed dates and locations for **bi-monthly** meetings for 2009 are provided below.

Tuesday 20th January :	Stirling High School (SHS)
Wednesday 18th March :	SHS
Thursday 14th May :	SHS
Tuesday 14th July :	Mayfield Centre
Thursday 17th September:	SHS
Thursday 12th November:	SHS